## In Search of Significance

LCDR R. C. Richards Command Chaplain

Have you ever felt insignificant? I can recall that on more than one occasion I have looked at the night sky and felt tiny. I have stood on the deck of a ship and seen all of the stars in a clear night sky. I have been in the field and looked up and the stars were so numerous that you could not even begin to count them all. When you look at the heavens, you realize just how small you are in comparison to the Universe.

When we see how small we are, we feel how small and insignificant we are in size, yet we are given a clue as to just how significant we really are. Our significance lies, not in our size, but in our image. We are not significant because we are large or small, but because we were created in the very image of God.

I was reminded recently of a book I read by a popular radio personality. In her book, she was expressing her frustration that so many people will try to excuse their behavior by saying, "I am only human." Rather, she reminds us that the fact that we are human is what sets us apart from all other creation. Rather than being like mindless termites, we are created to be like God.

In fact, the Bible account of the creation expresses that we are the pinnacles of creation. God had created all of the heavens and earth. He had created the beasts of the field, the fowl of the air and the fish in the oceans. Then he created man in His own image and gave us dominion over all of His creation. He made us different. He caused us to have a soul and a free will and able to make conscious choices and decisions.

It is easy to feel like we are small and do not matter in the grand scheme of things, but the Bible tells us that we are not only created in God's image, but that he cares deeply about each of us. The Bible says that not even a sparrow falls to the earth without God knowing, and we are much more valuable to Him than a sparrow.

In fact, God finds each of us significant enough that he knows everything about us, even to the number of hairs on our heads. I don't know about you, but it has been my experience that I don't bother myself with information that I feel is insignificant. In fact, the word *insignificant* means to have no value or meaning. The reality is that God holds you in such high value, that he wants to be intimately involved in everything in your life. He wants to have a relationship with you and keep that relationship through all eternity.

The next time you glance up at the stars, remember that God loves you and you *are* significant. And if you don't yet have a relationship with God, let me tell you how you can.

Semper Fi in the Lord and I hope to see you in Church on Sunday.